

**PROVING GOD'S WILL-PT 2  
BE NOT CONFORMED TO THIS WORLD  
ROMANS 12:1-2**

**Introduction**

A few weeks back we finished our series on **UNDERSTANDING AND DOING THE WILL OF GOD**. Now we are looking at the matter of what we find in *verse 2* here in our text of **PROVING WHAT IS THAT GOOD AND ACCEPTABLE AND PERFECT WILL OF GOD!**

In order for that to be accomplished in our lives, what we read in *verse 1 and 2* seem to be prerequisite! So we are looking at these two verses to see what it takes!

Last week we looked at the matter of **PRESENTING OUR BODIES A LIVING SACRIFICE** as found in *verse 1*.

This week we want to examine the first part of *verse 2*—“**And be not conformed to this world...**” (Read the *verses 1 and 2*)

“**Conform**” means “*to fashion alike, that is, fit or be pressed into the same pattern.*”

*1 Peter 1:14-16*—“As obedient children, **not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance**: But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.”

We as **BELIEVERS** on **CHRIST** are not to be shaped by this world !

**I. OUR MASTER IS TO BE DIFFERENT!**

*Romans 6:12-13*—“12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. 13 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey;”

*John 13:13*—“Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am.”

*Luke 6:46*—“And why call ye me, Lord, Lord,... and do not the things which I say?”

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**II. OUR MENTALITY OR OUR MINDSET IS TO BE DIFFERENT!**

*Romans 12:2*—“...but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind.”

*Ephesians 4:17-19*—“This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.”

*Romans 13:4*—“But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.”

OUR MASTER. . . OUR MENTALITY OR OUR MINDSET. . .

**III. OUR MAKE-UP IS TO BE DIFFERENT!**

**A. By Make-Up, I Mean Our Character!**

*2 Corinthians 5:17*—“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

**B. By Make-Up, I Mean Our Composition!**

*Ephesians 4:22-24*—“That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

**C. By Make-Up, I Mean Our Disposition!**

*Colossians 3:12-14*—“Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.”

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**ROMANS 12:1-2**

**D. By Make-Up, I Mean Our Conversation!**

*Ephesians 4:29*—“Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.”

*Ephesians 4:31-32*—“Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: 32And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you.”

*Colossians 3:8*—“But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:”

OUR MASTER...OUR MENTALITY OR OUR MINDSET...OUR MAKE-UP...

**IV. OUR MEDITATION IS TO BE DIFFERENT!**

*Philippians 4:8*—“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.”

*Psalms 19:14*—“Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.”

*Luke 6:45*—“A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.”

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**V. OUR METHODS ARE TO BE DIFFERENT!**

*2 Corinthians 1:12*—“For our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom, but by the grace of God, we have had our conversation in the world, and more abundantly to you-ward.”

*2 Corinthians 4:1-2*—“Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not; But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man’s conscience in the sight of God.”

*1 Thessalonians 2:3-6*—“For our exhortation was not of deceit, nor of uncleanness, nor in guile: But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth our hearts. For neither at any time used we flattering words, as ye know, nor a cloak of covetousness; God is witness: Nor of men sought we glory, neither of you, nor yet of others, when we might have been burdensome, as the apostles of Christ.”

**VI. OUR MOTIVES ARE TO BE DIFFERENT!**

*John 6:27*—“Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth...” (Monetary gain can be a motive.)

*Acts 20:22-24* (Fear can be a powerful motive.)

What are some other motives that the world has?

**Power, Lust, Greed, Envy, Jealousy, Hatred, Pride.**

(We could list more!)

*2 Corinthians 5:14-15*—“14 For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: 15 And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.”

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**ROMANS 12:1-2**

**VII. OUR MORALS ARE TO BE DIFFERENT!**

*1 Corinthians 6:9-11*—“Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.”

*Galatians 5:19-21*—“Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.”

**VIII. OUR MODESTY IS TO BE DIFFERENT!**

*1 Timothy 2:9-10*—“In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works.”

You will not find nakedness used in a good context in the Bible after man sinned.

God intends for nakedness to be covered outside of the personal, private, intimate marital relationship.

**IX. OUR MAINTENANCE IS TO BE DIFFERENT!**

What I'm talking about is our sustenance, our support, our livelihood.

The world looks at what they have—their job, their bank account, their abilities.

But listen, the Believer should be looking to God!

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**ROMANS 12:1-2**

*2 Corinthians 3:5*—“Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God;”

*2 Corinthians 9:8*—“And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work.”

**X. OUR MEASUREMENT IS TO BE DIFFERENT!**

**A. Our Measurement Of Righteousness Is To Be Different!**

**1. Our Standard Is Not The Laws Of Man , But The Laws Of God!**

*Acts 5:29*—“Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.”

**2. Our Standard Is Not Other Men, But Christ!**

*2 Corinthians 10:12*—“For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.”

**B. Our Measurement Of Success Is To Be Different.**

Not by worldly standards—(i.e. position, power, possessions, and the like), but by Godly standards—(i.e. obedience, humility, righteousness, Christ-likeness)

**Conclusion**

So, we are not to be **CONFORMED** to this world, but be **TRANSFORMED**. *Transformed = To change into a different form.*

**metamorphoōō** (met-am-or-fo'-o)

This is where we get our word **metamorphosis** from.

**Why do we need to be TRANSFORMED?**

1. Because prior to us coming to a saving knowledge of **JESUS**, we were all pressed into the mold of this world.

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**ROMANS 12:1-2**

2. Because even after we are saved, the world keeps trying to press us into its mold. There is constant pressure.

How are we to be **TRANSFORMED**? By the **RENEWING** of our **MINDS**.

We will continue with that thought next time, **LORD** willing.

But tonight, as a **BELIEVER**, does your life more resemble the world or **CHRIST**?